

Today's News - Tuesday, June 16, 2009

- It's a starchitect kind of news day: Calatrava gets a Florida gig.
- Libeskind does prefab (no, not affordable housing, but "regional exclusivity" guarantees you'll be the only one on your block to have one).
- No minced words here: Rogers gives his first interview re: "how a royal intervention scuppered his scheme for Chelsea Barracks," and calls for a national inquiry.
- Hadid's Burnham pavilion is a bit behind schedule (oh, that pesky complex, computer-assisted design).
- Geller offers 10 creative ways to increase affordable housing choices.
- The growing fascination with temporary architecture.
- Saffron cheers a Philadelphia school's greening of its playground, and the city's Greenworks plan to convert acres of asphalt into fully pervious land by 2015.
- Walking the High Line: "it's a singular experience...a strange piece of infrastructure."
- Nothing lost in translation with a bit of Il Giornale dell'Architettura: revisiting Koolhaas's Seattle library 5 years later (it's not all good news); Piano's Modern Wing is "daintily structured, and rakishly hatted"; Zumthor "has become a world architect almost in spite of himself"; and Guggenheim's Wright exhibition "may well be the last hurrah for a kind of grandiosity," but its visual treats are not to be missed.
- Becker talks to Balmond re: "will the new austerity banish his kind of architecture for good?" (and a brief history of the Indian Rope Trick)
- Lifson chats with Piano about all things Chicago (and beyond).
- Q&A with Earthship Biotecture's Reynolds: "a builder of castles made of trash."
- Q&A with Yona Friedman: "It is odd that an opponent of planning should dislike LA. 'There is no such place,' he says."
- Critics decry George Lucas's plans for a Hearst Castle copycat (doubtful Julia Morgan would win in court).
- AJ offers a better idea: Lucas should look "closer to home for inspiration: his Star Wars films are full of wonderful architecture."
- RIAI Irish Architectural Awards shortlist announced (it's not so short).
- Call for entries: Architect Magazine Annual Design Review; and Visitor's Center for Newark, N.J. International Competition.

To subscribe to the free daily newsletter [click here](#)

University of South Florida Polytechnic Chooses Architect: Santiago Calatrava to design first building...for its new Lakeland campus and to update the campus plan...College officials compare the impact of having Calatrava's work showcased at USF Poly to the significance of having Frank Lloyd Wright begin his design of 10 structures at Florida Southern College almost 70 years ago. - The Ledger (Florida)

Libeskind Designs a Prefab Home: ...a 5,500-square-foot, two-story villa that resembles a crystal with sharp angles and towering windows bursting from the ground...will carry a price tag of €2 million to €3 million, or \$2.8 million to \$4.2 million, depending on the destination...Buyers will also be promised regional exclusivity, ensuring that they are the only ones in their neighborhoods with the design. [images] - New York Times

Prince Charles's meddling in planning 'unconstitutional', says Richard Rogers: First interview: The architect describes how a royal intervention scuppered his scheme for Chelsea Barracks...called for a national inquiry into whether the prince has a constitutional right to become involved...claimed the prince "single-handedly destroyed the project"...by interfering in the democratic planning process, the prince had broken "a bond of trust" with the British public. By Robert Booth -- Rogers Stirk Harbour [link to Q&A] - Guardian (UK)

Hadid's Burnham pavilion weeks behind schedule, won't open Friday, as planned: ...attributed to the manufacturer's difficulty in executing Hadid's complex, computer-assisted design..."Nothing's easy, is it?" By Blair Kamin -- Zaha Hadid; Ben van Berkel/UNStudio [images] - Chicago Tribune

My 10 solutions would create government challenges: 10 creative ways for municipalities, developers and community organizations to increase affordable housing choices...However, they will require changes in government policies and regulations, new forms of housing and tenure and interesting new partnerships. By Michael Geller - Vancouver Sun

Fleeting architecture: As novelty and sustainability drive design, more structures are deliberately temporary...a symbiosis between experimental and utilitarian elements in the architectural landscape can only grow. -- Marc Spector; Ball-Nogues; Sci-Arc; Architecture for Humanity; Burners Without Borders - Christian Science Monitor

Attacking asphalt: By greening its playground, Greenfield School is fighting back against the damage that gunk-laden storm water does in a paved city...Greenworks plan calls for the city to convert 3,200 acres of asphalt into fully pervious land by 2015. By Inga Saffron -- SMP Architects; Viridian Landscape Studio; Meliora Environmental Design [images] - Philadelphia Inquirer

Walk the line: So how did the High Line go from being a relic to becoming New York's hottest, most inventive public space? ...it's a singular experience thanks to the tension between past and present...a strange piece of infrastructure... By Alex Bozovic -- James Corner/Field Operations; Diller Scofidio + Renfro [slide show, links] - Globe and Mail (Canada)

-- Frank Lloyd Wright: 50 Years On: The Guggenheim's Wright exhibition may well be the last hurrah for a kind of grandiosity...but seeing the evidence of Wright's architecture...are, at least, visual treats not to be missed.
-- Rem Koolhaas Seattle Central Library 5 Years later: ...the best circus in the world, with all its art, cannot be a library. Or can it?

-- Renzo Piano for Chicago Art Institute: A Sophisticated Modern Wing: ...like a super-stylish garden pavilion or kiosk, transparent, daintily structured, and rakishly hatted...
-- Peter Zumthor, Pritzker Prize Winner...has become a world architect almost in spite of himself. - Il Giornale dell'Architettura (Italy)

Cecil Balmond and the Bonfire of the Vanities: Next Saturday, June 20th, is the last day for the remarkable show, "Cecil Balmond: Solid Void," at Chicago's Graham Foundation. Will the new austerity banish his kind of architecture for good? Architecture after the fall, the work, thought and relevance of Cecil Balmond, and a brief history of the Indian Rope Trick. By Lynn Becker [images, links] - Repeat (Chicago)

Q&A: Renzo Piano: Edward Lifson chats with the architect about Chicago's new Modern Wing and its transformative role in the city, the architect's spirited collaboration with Mayor Daley, and the role of architecture in Chicago and beyond. [images] - The Architect's Newspaper

A Builder of Castles Made of Trash: Q&A with Michael Reynolds, Founder of Earthship Biotope. How I got to here in 10 words or less: "Don't give up." - Wall Street Journal

Interview: Yona Friedman: The Paris-based architect's visions for transport systems and superstructures have influenced generations of artists concerned with utopia...The greater part of [his] life has been spent thinking about infrastructure...it is odd that an opponent of planning should dislike LA. 'There is no such place,' he says. -- Groupe d'Etudes d'Architecture Mobile (GEAM) - Blueprint Magazine (UK)

George Lucas building Hearst Castle copycat in Marin, critics claim: ...proposed new 262,000-square-foot digital film production building...at Grady Ranch in Marin's Lucas Valley bears an uncanny resemblance to the castle's main building, Casa Grande. But experts on architecture copyright law doubt that Lucas will face legal repercussions. -- Julia Morgan (1922); Urban Design Group [images] - Mercury News (California)

Top 10: The architecture of Star Wars: George Lucas has been accused of rather too closely following the designs of media magnate William Randolph Hearst's 'Xanadu' Castle. He should have looked closer to home for inspiration: his Star Wars films are full of wonderful architecture...AJ selects the most important buildings from a galaxy far, far away. [images] - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Irish Architectural Awards shortlist revealed -- Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI); Odos; FKL; Clancy Moore; OPW; McGarry Ní Eanaigh; Niall McLaughlin; Boyd Cody; De Blacam & Meagher; Donaghy & Dimond; A2 Architects; Catriona Duggan & Achim Gottstein; GM & AD Architects; A&D Wejchert & Partners; McCullough Mulvin; etc. - Irish Times

Call for entries: Architect Magazine's 1st Annual Design Review: celebrates the best of American architecture from built projects completed over the last year; open to architects and other design professionals practicing in the United States or non-U.S. firms entering projects built in the U.S.; deadline: June 29 - Architect Magazine

Call for entries: Visitor's Center for Newark, N.J. International Competition - AIA New Jersey

Engaging Students in Smart-Building Design: Illinois Institute of Technology New Student Residence Halls: Performance-calibrated building design and student-centric spaces will give students control over their environment and generate performance data to be shared with university and architectural communities beyond the IIT campus. -- Dirk Denison Architects [images] - ArchNewsNow

-- Allied Works Architecture: University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA), Ann Arbor
-- Competition winner: BIG & Michel Rojkind: Museo Tamayo, Atizapan, Mexico

Note: Pages will open in a new browser window.
External news links are not endorsed by ArchNewsNow.com.
Free registration may be required on some sites.
Some pages may expire after a few days.

[Yesterday's News](#)

© 2009 ArchNewsNow.com